

Stalin Ready For Mountains Battle

THE Soviet forces have adapted themselves magnificently to the changing conditions of war. And it would be indeed surprising if Marshal Stalin, with his vision and his long-range strategy, has not made full provision for the battle of the Carpathians.

HITLER CAN'T HOLD THE DANUBE BASIN

JUST as invasion and "occupation" marked the beginning of Hitler's war of conquest, so it will be written that his "occupation" of the Balkans marked the beginning of the final phase of his defeat.

Today, in his dwindling fortress, Hitler can trust only Germany; and even that trust is based on a policy of fear. The New Order that was to dominate Europe for a thousand years has disintegrated before it even functioned properly. One by one, as the assurance of Allied victory grew, the satellites have begun to show signs of distrust in Hitler's rapidly-winning star.

Occupation of Hungary and Rumania has increased pressure on Bulgaria, and tightening up of all the Balkan defenses is not a case of aggressive conquest as we knew them four years ago. They are in a position to disintegrate. The battles which will be fought in the borders of the Danube itself are reaching a point.

To carry Hungary and to strengthen his hold on Rumania and Bulgaria, Hitler has been compelled to draw in the strategic reserves held in America for the major Anglo-American invasion of Europe.

HITLER has lost none of his technique in acting promptly. At this time the promptness of his moves is not to remove a threat, but to meet one. The advance of the Red Army through Rumania and towards the only German frontier is the cause of the threat to his line.

He must also make dispositions to meet the threat in Jugoslavia should the Allies invade in the Balkans.

NATURAL BULWARK The Danube basin will soon be the scene of some of the fiercest struggles. Here the Germans will fight like tigers, but they will lose it. The basin is rich in food and oil supplies, and the loss of it would be a disaster.

Yet at the best Hitler knows he cannot fight one on a delaying action. He has this strong, natural bulwark in the Carpathians, and it is on this line that the peak of German resistance is reached.

This mountain range, extending for a great semicircle from the Danube to the Carpathians, covers a line of 600 miles long. It is a natural barrier as far as the Russians have faced.

Special troops of the Red Army trained in mountain fighting have been sent to the Carpathians to meet the Germans out of the mountains.

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

the Caucasus when the Russian soldiers were almost within Hitler's grasp.

SINCE then, the Soviet forces have adapted themselves magnificently to the changing conditions of war. And it would be indeed surprising if Marshal Stalin, with his vision and his long-range strategy, has not made full provision for this mountain battle.

Allied military experts have not yet got over the "miracle" of the crossing of the Danube by the Red Army. While they were thinking of the Russian advance across that river in terms of war, Kottler's forces had stormed it in their stride and thrust forward a broad-fronted advance.

NOTHING STOPPED THEM "Nothing," Moscow declared a few months ago, "will stop the Red Army." So far nothing has.

Integrity, resource and a supply system amounting in its composition of mud, snow, swift rivers and mountainous have solved problems which appeared insoluble.

One factor which helped them to solve these problems has been the superiority of their manpower. They have had the Anglo-American air assault. Allied raids have punning down in Germany, Western Europe and Central Europe.

The Luftwaffe and millions of men engaged in A.A. defence, A.R.P., demolition and reconstruction work.

THE conservative report of the Air Ministry and the Ministry of Economic Warfare is that the cumulative effect of big-scale bombing is at long last being felt in Germany.

Think losses are not being made good. It is doubtful whether wastage in fighter planes such as has been experienced in recent months can be borne for a prolonged period.

All this is working to the advantage of the Allies.

PIPING THE PAYERS!

London's First Broadside Salute The Soldier

SIXTY Army dispatch riders dashed up the Mall from Trafalgar Square yesterday with a message from Sir James Grigg, the War Minister, to the heads of the City of London.

Thousands of people had crowded the Square to hear Field Marshal Sir Alan Brooke, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, speak from a platform against a background of field guns.

They heard the Scots Guards band and the pipes and drums of a famous Canadian regiment, in front of whom were trumpeters of the Life Guards.

A fanfare of trumpets and the breaking of the City of London Guards band played "Salute the Soldier" march, composed and conducted by Eric Coles.

A flurry of trumpets was the signal for a column of dispatch riders to be off.

And by noon an advance column of the distance had been made—£165,000 in Salutes to the Soldier Week had begun.

Sir Alan Brooke said: "We face the present and prepare for the future."

GRATITUDE, SUPPORT "Our salute must not only express gratitude for the past, but also the British soldier fought with tenacity and determination against overwhelming odds."

Any soldier who must provide support for the present and hope for the future is not making it his manhood in risking war, without any reward, but making it his duty.

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'LANDRU II' SLEW 60: STILL FREE

FRANCE'S Bluebeard of 1914, Dr. Petiot, bids fair to rival America's mass murderer, "Murdere Incorporated," the most fantastic band of slayers in modern times, according to latest revelations of investigations into the bodies found in the house in Rue Lecourbe, Paris.

About 60 victims are now credited to the doctor, who promised to get people out of Nazi-occupied France to safety in South America for £300 a head, and then killed them, according to German Radio reports.

The reports of the activities of the "U.S." Cash and Buy Syndicate, it was also known, the number of its victims at hundreds, but it was also known, Dr. Petiot, "Landru II" according to French police investigations, sent out to the fashionable cafes, bars and salons of Paris to find people (or whom the city had become too hot).

For £300 he would get them to South America. They went to his house in the Rue Lecourbe and were asked to sit in a chair.

Dr. Petiot's room—he could see them through a periscope—the doctor manipulated a deadly hypodermic needle on a telescopic arm, which put them to sleep. Their bodies were disposed of in a lime-pit and later in a furnace.

So prosperous had the doctor's "Macabre" practice become that he installed a business of moving the bodies after.

He found people involved in the doctor's fiendish racket is not known.

In addition to the bodies or parts of bodies found in the Rue Lecourbe, the police have traced numerous other bodies found in "bodies" for the Rue Lecourbe, for the "Bluebeard" killer.

They were all scalped, and Petiot is believed to have done this to prevent their being identified.

A nation-wide search for the doctor's victims is apparently still in progress, although there were reports during the week that they were captured on a Paris underground station—B.U.P.

RETIRED Mr. and Mrs. (Jimmy) Peacock, popular manager and member of the Imperial College Union, Kensington, for many years, are retiring.

They will be missed by the students of South Kensington students who have passed through their hands.

"SMALL-SAVE" DROP Last week's "small savings" of £12,700,774 showed a decrease of £2,382,623. The corresponding week of last year was during the Wins for Victory campaign, and the figure was £11,000,906.

ADVERTISERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

NAVY'S New Call To Yachtsmen

YACHTSMEN and others with motor-boats, or steam-boats, experiences, either as seamen or as officers, are invited to help their services of the department of the Royal Navy for the short period of six weeks during the next six months. This is an extension of the scheme of the yachtsmen's emergency scheme.

Volunteers would be required to serve in harbour service craft, and other small vessels, thus relieving training and reserve general service.

Each period of duty will be from three to four weeks' duration, but no individual who is required to obtain an employer's permission to serve will be called upon more than once during the complete cycle.

Those able to undertake these duties should apply to the nearest local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

'USE PUMP TO SPARE TYRES!'

There are 20,000,000 cycle tyres running on British roads today, states Mr. P. W. Howard, chair of the Ministry of Supply, presented a new bicycle to Leading Aircraftman, released during February, and the number under Regulation 10B was 218.

No new orders were made during the month.

FEWER 188 INTERIERS

Over 188 interiers were detained in this country under Regulation 10B, released during February, and the number under Regulation 10B was 218.

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HELP PRISONERS HENLEY A Company Home Guard, anxious to help prisoners of war, has organized a scheme to help them.

Mr. A. G. Tooley, secretary of the Oxfordshire Battalion Home Guard, Committee, in a letter to the Editor of "The People" said:

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While Father twiddle, Mother sews And Albert sticks in postage stamps For easy seeing, one one one A debt of thanks to

Mazda LAMPS

The British Thomson-Houston Co. Ltd., Crown House, Aldwych, W.C.2

BUSY BUBBLE'S HELPING HAND

"WE SAIL THROUGH THE WASH WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE"

MAKE DO AND MEND WASHDAY WISDOM

When you are busy making-over an outfit into a new one, remember that unless you wash it safely and dry it properly, your efforts will be wasted.

Only Busy Bubble helps washes clothes bright and clean without rubbing and scrubbing. And it cleans clothes coupons and keeps them washable.

MADE IN U.S.A. 100% cotton, 70, 100 & 120 denier. 100% Cotton. At your shop.

THE HUGLEY AND COMPANY LIMITED, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

AMERICANS TAKE TO CRICKET

AMERICAN armymen sent to Britain saw cricket matches between village teams for the first time. They learned to play the game.

THESE ARE THE HOMES, SAYS MINISTRY

EXPERIMENTAL houses built by the Ministry of Health at Watford, Hertfordshire, are nearly completed.

THESE ANSWERS WIN

THE correct answers in the first of the new weekly £300 Red Cross Contest, broadcast on March 18, were: cash—cash.

Congratulations To You!

THE PEOPLE has pleasure in offering congratulations today to the following readers on the occasion of their wedding and silver anniversaries.

NO PARCELS FOR SERVING JERRIES

Temporary suspension of the parcel post service to German troops in the field was announced by German Radio last night.

SIR HENRY WOOD MEETS THE QUEEN

The Queen and Prince of Wales met Sir Henry Wood at the Albert Hall yesterday to celebrate the 75th birthday of Sir Henry J. Wood.

101 TOMORROW

Mrs. C. Peckham, Northcote, St. Albans, will celebrate her 101st birthday tomorrow. Her mother, the late Mrs. T. Wood, of Canterbury, lived to be 100.

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"Now's the time for an 'an'". Prepared from PRIME RICH BEEF. You have been warned!

Massed Defences Couldn't Stop RAF

BERLIN AFTER ITS GREAT TEST BOMB

Most Open About It!
"OPEN more than usual" was the cheerful notice displayed yesterday by a bombed London café.

Silenced Guns To Save Sailor's Life

From DESMOND TIGHE, Reuter Special Correspondent

ABLE SEAMAN MALCOLM CHARLES WHITE, of London, has made Fleet history by silencing the big guns of H.M.S. Duke of York, flagship of the Home Fleet and victor of the battle against the Scharnhorst.

The fleet was steaming in battle line ahead for a 14-inch practice shoot with guns closed up ready to fire when twenty-one-year-old White, whose home is at 5, Salisbury-bury, Manor Park, was taken suddenly ill.

Appendicitis was diagnosed. Surgeon-Lieutenant Commander White realised that an immediate operation was necessary to save the man's life.

He clambered up to the bridge and asked the Flag Captain, the Hon. Guy Russell, C.B.E., D.S.O., whether the shoot should be interrupted.

Surgeon-Lieutenant immediately called the Admiral's Bridge and asked the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, G.C.B., K.B.E., whether the shoot could be postponed, and the Admiral agreed.

Twenty minutes later I was told by Surgeon-Lieutenant Commander White, whose home is at Melton near Stoughton, Cheshire, prepare his instruments for the operation in the sick bay.

"It is the fifth appendix operation I have done at sea," he said. "I have never had to upset a shoot before, but White is critically ill."

The operation took 40 minutes while the great broadsword ploughed her way through the water continuing the exercise.

It was successful, and White's life was saved by a matter of two hours—Reuter.

SEVENTEEN NEW PRICE
Seventeen Communists will be shot for every follower of Vichy France in Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco, the answer to the trial and punishment of French quislings. It was broadcast by Paris Radio yesterday.

ADVERTISERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOTBALL FACTS

TO EVERY WOMAN WHOSE CHILD HAS A GREEN RATION BOOK

WHY even healthy children need cod liver oil and orange juice every day

Every child young enough to have a green ration book should have cod liver oil and orange juice every day to have continued health in later years.

For firm, strong bones and resistance to colds.

Cod liver oil, containing Vitamin A and Vitamin D, cures a child's resistance to infections (especially colds and "chests" complaints).

It helps the body to absorb, store, and use the vitamins of cod liver oil and the prevention of rickets.

For all-round health.

Orange juice, containing Vitamin C, is needed for the general health.

Such troubles as peevishness, restlessness, lack of vitality, skin trouble, and growing gums, are caused by not enough Vitamin C in the diet.

It isn't enough to drink the cod liver oil. You must have orange juice every day.

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Aboard H.M.S. Duke of York.

Hitler did everything he could to save the city on Friday night. Fighters took off from their bases in force; great belts of searchlights made the sky almost as bright as day; massed A.A. guns put up a terrific barrage.

It was the fiercest battle ever fought for the capital, says the Air Ministry News Service.

Bomber Command sent more than 1,000 aircraft over the Reich, and the load dropped on the Berlin—more than 2,500 tons of high explosive and incendiary bombs—was the heaviest since the offensive began.

From the reports of the crews it seems that the Germans had used the pause in the offensive to strengthen the city's defences.

From the moment we crossed the enemy coast, one Lancaster just said, "massed guns and searchlights opened up on us. Fighter flares were flashing down."

"There was no question of losing. We were going right into the den last night, and we knew it and they knew it."

There was one dense belt of searchlights, which extended for more than 20 miles.

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"WAS MY JOURNEY REALLY NECESSARY?"



This Hun, fed-up, thoughtful, and far from home, was captured near the Anzio Bridgehead.

BURMA SHOWED THE WAY

Glider Troops May Be Big Invasion Shock

From IRVING TERRY, Reuter's Correspondent

GLIDER-BORNE troops may play a big part in the Allied invasion of Europe, following the success of operations in North Burma, where 10,000 men were landed secretly.

W.A.A.F.s STAYED AT POST IN BIG RAID

The Luftwaffe was over London. Three heavy bombers had been dropped near the equipment store of an RAF technical training school. But two WAAF's stuck to their job in a recent raid.

L.A.C.W. Joan Dorothy Humphries, twenty-two, of New Haven, and A.C.W.I. Beulah, twenty-one, of Southall, Middlesex, were on duty in the store when the whole of the glass roof collapsed.

Instead of calling for assistance they tackled the situation themselves. They cleared the debris, repaired minor damage and secured doors and windows that had been blown open by blast.

The main store was open to the sky, and they had to work all the time in the dark. They stayed at their post until relieved at the morning break.

Largely due to their efforts, the equipment store was at work as usual that morning.

Many gliders can be towed by hand plane, and can land with ease for individual landings, either at one point or at separate targets.

Rumania: 'Extreme Urgency'

Rumanian General Staff has ordered the mobilisation of all reserve troops, and youths undergoing preliminary training, according to Bukarest yesterday.

The announcement says they must report to training centres at 7 a.m. on Sunday to carry out measures of extreme urgency.

The four divisions of the Rumanian army are being moved to the Danube.

His tank losses since the Rumanian offensive opened three weeks ago have been raised in the week from 1,000 to more than 1,500.

Red Army's Race For Oilfields

Thousands more, yet uncounted, are being transferred to the rivers flowing down to the Dniester.

His tank losses since the Rumanian offensive opened three weeks ago have been raised in the week from 1,000 to more than 1,500.

TODAY'S RADIO

HOME—7.0—News. 7.15—Country. 7.30—Country. 7.45—Country. 8.0—Country. 8.15—Country. 8.30—Country. 8.45—Country. 9.0—Country. 9.15—Country. 9.30—Country. 9.45—Country. 10.0—Country. 10.15—Country. 10.30—Country. 10.45—Country. 11.0—Country. 11.15—Country. 11.30—Country. 11.45—Country. 12.0—Country. 12.15—Country. 12.30—Country. 12.45—Country. 1.0—Country. 1.15—Country. 1.30—Country. 1.45—Country. 2.0—Country. 2.15—Country. 2.30—Country. 2.45—Country. 3.0—Country. 3.15—Country. 3.30—Country. 3.45—Country. 4.0—Country. 4.15—Country. 4.30—Country. 4.45—Country. 5.0—Country. 5.15—Country. 5.30—Country. 5.45—Country. 6.0—Country. 6.15—Country. 6.30—Country. 6.45—Country. 7.0—Country. 7.15—Country. 7.30—Country. 7.45—Country. 8.0—Country. 8.15—Country. 8.30—Country. 8.45—Country. 9.0—Country. 9.15—Country. 9.30—Country. 9.45—Country. 10.0—Country. 10.15—Country. 10.30—Country. 10.45—Country. 11.0—Country. 11.15—Country. 11.30—Country. 11.45—Country. 12.0—Country. 12.15—Country. 12.30—Country. 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